IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

WARD et al

Atty. Ref.: 604-708; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. Unassigned Group: Unassigned

Filed: January 30, 2004 Examiner: Unassigned

For: COMPACTED BIOMATERIALS

January 30, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: